

WHAT'S ON

Photography Exhibition
Marking 51st Birth Anniversary of Tugidun Ahmad
Venue: Gallery Twenty One, 751, Samratul Islam Road, Dhaka
Date: Jul 23-Aug 22, Time: 12noon-8pm



Open Studio
Marking Annual Salon Young Artist Award 2015
Venue: Gyanatara, Abdur Razzak Biddipatna, H-46, Rd 7/A, Dhaka
Date: Jul 23-Aug 12, Time: 11am-7pm



Solo Painting Exhibition
Title: "Water Journey" by Artist Kana Titu
Venue: Shikhan Gallery, H-7, Rd-13 (Dew), Dharamdhar
Date: Jul 29-Aug 12, Time: 12noon-8pm



Solo Painting Exhibition
Artist: Prokash Kumar
Venue: Bay's Gallery, Radio Centre, 57, Goshali
Date: Jul 30-Aug 10, Time: 12noon-8pm



Group Art Exhibition
Title: "Shilpi Kalyan Bangabandhu"
Venue: Gallery 3, National Art Gallery Plaza, USA
Date: August 1-31, Time: 11am-8pm



"THEATRE IS MY SCHOOL"

...Shajjad Shaju

ZAIMA ZAHIRA

Shajjad Shaju's long journey with theatre troupe Aranyak has transformed him into a mature and skilful actor. In a conversation with The Daily Star, he talked about the role of theatre in his life:

Why did you go into theatre?
Shaju: I consider theatre as my school. I had a classmate who was into theatre and his undeniable talent was a great inspiration for me. In 1995, a theatre troupe came for a performance to my home district Sirajganj. The troupe consisted of Zahid Hasan, Tauquir Ahmed and Azizul Hakim. After I watched their amazing performance I decided to join Torun Sampradaya. I worked for two years with the troupe and left Sirajganj for Dhaka to join Aranyak. I had to wait four long years before I could get a good role. Since then I have been in the theatre world and my learning never stops.

What role can theatre play in society?
Shaju: If someone has freedom without proper guidance, there is a higher chance of going astray. However, if someone is culturally inclined then he or she will have more wholesome values. That is why, I believe theatre, as a



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

cultural tool, can help society flourish.

Why isn't theatre a profession?

Shaju: Theatre in Bangladesh began as a means to build social awareness plus as a form of entertainment. Back then our options were limited. The difference between yesterday and today is that expectations have grown and

options have multiplied. Today we have television, films and other media. That is why we see younger people are reaching for quick and easy successes. So theatre is not regarded as a profession. I believe that if our government extended greater support to theatre as in other countries, we could definitely turn it into a viable profession.

Bangabandhu and the Liberation War

Photography exhibition at BAU

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

A 20-day photography exhibition on 'Bangabandhu and Liberation War' was held at a gallery on Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) campus August 10.

The Public Relations and Publications Department of the university organised the exhibition titled 'Chitte Chirokhaswar' at Muktiyuddh Alokchitra Gallery of BAU central library as part of month-long national mourning programme.

Over 100 rare photographs on Bangabandhu and War of Liberation were displayed at the exhibition.

Earlier, Professor Md Ali Akbar, vice-chancellor of BAU inaugurated the exhibition as the chief guest.

Students Affairs Adviser Professor Sachidananda Das Chowdhury, BAU Research System director Professor Md Monjurul Alam, BAU proctor Dr AKM Zakir Hossain, its librarian Professor Mohammad Aslam Ali, treasurer Md Rakib Uddin and deans of different faculties addressed the inaugural session.

Dr Aminur Rahman Chowdhury, director of Public Relations and Publications Department presented the photographs that depicted the struggle for independence and will encourage discourse on the Liberation War.

The present generation will become more aware of the history of country's independence and the destructive role of the Pakistan occupation army and of their



Visitors at the exhibition.

PHOTO: STAR



Majnun Mizan and Alvi in a new TV play

A CORRESPONDENT

Majnun Mizan and Alvi will appear in a TV play titled "Shob Kichhu Bhengey Porey." Directed by Abu Syfian Biplob, the cast of the play includes Abul Hayat, Masum Aziz and Farukh Ahmed among others.

The plot surrounds the trials of a teacher and his son living in Dhaka. When the father resorts to earning money nefariously their lives are turned upside down. "Honesty is a concept we are losing grain of day by day, and that is what I wanted to highlight here," explained Abu Syfian.

Majnun Mizan and Alvi are full of praise for the plot. "The TV play has a wonderful message," remarked Alvi. The TV play is scheduled to go on air on Eid-ul-Azha.

Natyakendra to stage 50th show of "DUI JE CHHILO EK CHAKOR"



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

One of the leading Bangladeshi theatre troupes Natyakendra will stage their popular play "Dui Je Chhilo Ek Chakor" for 49th and 50th shows on August 11 and 12 at 7pm in National Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, according to a press release.

Adapted from Italian playwright Carlo Goldoni's "The Servants of Two Masters", the play was premiered in January, 2013. It has so far been staged in ten cities both at home and abroad.

Performed in commedia dell'arte form, the play has received warm reviews for its skilful acting and direction. Prominent actor Tariq Anam Khan, the play has Yusuf Hossain Arko, Sangeta Chowdhury, Arif, Saif Uddin Ahmed, Luty Tripti Gomez, Emon and Triceps the Cast.

Natyakendra celebrated its silver jubilee in October last year. The troupe has staged more than 550 shows of their 14 productions.

International Day of the world's indigenous people

MINUTI DESHPANDRE, back from Chunarughat

Colourful processions, cultural programmes and discussions were held on August 9 at Nalua Tea Garden of Chunarughat of Habiganj on the occasion of International Day of the world's indigenous people.

Khoif Urang, president of Tribal Welfare Association, Chunarughat Upazila unit, inaugurated and presided over the programme.

A cultural function with the participation of indigenous communities was held at temple field under Nalua Tea Garden area in the afternoon, as part of a daylong programme organised by Sokkhomata project of Caritas Sylhet Region and funded by Caritas Epanola.

Clad in traditional attire and holding musical instruments, indigenous people belonging to Munda, Santal, Urang, Kharia and Urisia joined the programme in hundreds.

Chief guest Chavun Chakrabarty, junior programme officer of Sokkhomata project, Caritas Sylhet Region and special guest Anil Layek, field officer of Sokkhomata project,



Santal artistes perform at the programme.

PHOTO: STAR

Sopon Sawtal, president of Adibashi Somaj Unnoyong Songtha addressed the discussion. The speakers said according to the ILO Convention, indigenous cultural heritage should be preserved to ensure the cultural

diversity of the country. The government should take initiatives towards this end, they added. They also urged indigenous people, especially the younger generation, to preserve their unique culture and traditions.

BRIE LARSON

making directorial debut

Brie Larson will star in, produce, and make her directorial debut on the independent comedy "Uncle Store." Written by Samantha McIntyre, centres on a woman who moves back in with her parents. She receives an invitation to a store that will test her ideas of what it really means to grow up.

The filmmaking team is planning to begin shooting in October. The project was first unveiled in 2012 with Miguel Arteta directing and Rebel Wilson starring.

Larson broke through with "Short Term 12" and won the best actress Academy Award earlier this year for "Room." Her upcoming projects include Marvel's female-centric film "Captain Marvel," Legendary's "Kong: Skull Island," Lionsgate's coming-of-age drama "The Class Castle," and Ben Wheatley's crime thriller "Free Fire."

Larson is repped by WME and Authentic Talent and Literary Management. Kasiokostas-Latsis and Douglas produced Lily Tomlin's "Grandma" for Sony Classics and Natalie Portman's "Jane Got a Gun."

Her latest film "Fanny Hill," directed by Doug Liman, Maika Monroe's "Taxi," which is currently filming, and Robert Pattinson's "Good Time." The fund was set up by Kasiokostas-Latsis to bring European investors to Hollywood to finance wide release films.

